

James Allen Is Legally Hanged From Scafford That Killed Guiteau 35 Years Ago

HANGED
AS PENALTY
FOR KILLING
OF HIS WIFE

By RALPH A. COLLINS.

James T. Allen today paid the death penalty at the District jail for the killing of his wife Flora at their home in November, 1915.

Society took a life for a life. Allen was hanged on the same scaffold from which Guiteau was hanged thirty-six years ago.

Allen walked calmly to his death, and uttered not a word from the time he left his cell. Death was instantaneous, his neck being broken by the fall.

The hanging was one of the most expeditious in the annals of executions in the District. A jury of twelve men, a number of police guards and physicians from the Asylum hospital were the only witnesses.

Frank M. Allgood, one of the jurymen, dropped to the floor in a faint, as Allen's body fell.

Carefully Prepared.

Officials of the Washington Asylum and jail had made careful preparations for the hanging. Not until the trap was dropped in the north corridor of the jail, however, did they give up hope of a commutation of sentence or a reprieve by the President.

Superintendent Zinkhan said that the execution was one of the duties that had to be performed under the laws of the District of Columbia, and the sentence of the court was that

Vital Records.

Births.

Harold and Mary Train, girl.

Walter G. and Madeline J. C. Trouland, girl.

Kubie and Fannie Tolchinsky, boy.

James C. and Lillian M. Shubert, girl.

Frank T. and Mary Marie, boy.

H. F. and Louise Stiles, girl.

Carl and Josephine Schumann, girl.

Russell and Virginia G. L. Shubert, girl.

Roy B. and Florence M. Shubert, boy.

Lewis and Caroline Higgins, boy.

Samuel T. and Florence Powell, boy.

Thomas E. and Nora Purdy, boy.

Hubbard and Maude Morten, girl.

Thomas and Esther M. Shubert, girl.

John T. and Mary E. McKnight, girl.

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Here Is The Law
That Permits
Legal Murder

The text of that section of the law providing punishment for first degree murder in the District contains only thirteen words. They are:

"The punishment for murder in the first degree shall be death by hanging."—Section 561, Chapter 19, Code of Law of the District of Columbia.

Allen should be "hanged by the neck until dead."

"It is the most distressing duty we have to perform in connection with this institution," he declared. He expressed the sentiment of every one of his associates who were compelled to take a hand in the execution.

Stabbed His Wife.

Allen stabbed his wife during a quarrel in their home, 1221 Potomac street northwest, at 6 o'clock on the morning of November 11, 1915. He struck her with the carving knife, which he used as a professional chef, after words over a rumpled dress.

Allen declares that he struck when his wife taunted him that another man, whom he accused of breaking up his home, had bought the garment. He said that his wife was working on a dress to leave their home and child to go with the other man.

After the stabbing Allen sent his eleven-year-old son, awakened by his mother's screams, to get aid from neighbors. He gave himself up to the police.

He was placed on trial June 16, 1916, the court assigning him counsel. The same day he was convicted of murder in the first degree. June 17, he was sentenced to be hanged in December.

Gave a Respite.

On November 12, Justice Gould gave him a respite of five months, on a question at the trial as to the degree of murder. April 11, he was respite to May 14. An appeal in his behalf was made a personal appeal at the White House, but could not reach the President. Attorney General Gregory refused to act to stay the execution.

Hoped For a Stay.

Not until he began the march to the scaffold this morning did Allen give up hope of a reprieve. But he went quietly to his death. He slept soundly all night long, and was given a special breakfast when he awoke at 6 o'clock this morning.

Though he was calm during the morning he became restless under sentence, interested in his half and endeavored to have the sentence commuted to life imprisonment. All his efforts failed, however. Yesterday he made a personal appeal at the White House, but could not reach the President. Attorney General Gregory refused to act to stay the execution.

More Humane Death Urged.

If the Government intends to continue to take human life because a man or woman killed, it ought, at least, to provide some more humane way.

I notice that Allen swears he did not intend to kill his wife. When a man does not intend to commit a crime he surely is not guilty in his soul of it. Intention is everything in such a case.

Life imprisonment is more severe and appalling to the criminal than the penalty of death. Life imprisonment prevents the degenerate from committing crimes. It does not allow him to follow the evil bent of his mind.

Revolting Scene Condemned.

To me there could be few more revolting scenes than to see a man's life choked out by a rope, his breath slowly forced out of the body by a Government which stands for justice, and which guarantees protection from violence to the humblest of its citizens.

When the superintendent returned, the jury—official witnesses—were marched to the long, narrow north corridor of the jail building. At the far end could be seen the scaffold standing grim and white in the sun. Allen had to face this in his long march up the courtyard.

As the jurors filed in, far off a bass voice was heard singing "Nearer, My God, to Thee." It was the only sound through the vast stretch of tier on tier of cells and corridors. Gradually it drew nearer.

Jury Along Wall.

The jury stood lined along the wall, with their backs to the scaffold. As the singer entered the long courtyard, which is really an enclosed outside corridor, every head involuntarily turned.

The Rev. Dr. Roberts, marching in slow step just in front of Allen, was singing. His voice trembled.

Allen never faltered as his gaze met the scaffold and the long courtyard and the men lined along the sides.

With a steady step he marched straight to the scaffold, holding his head erect and his eyes forward. Handcuffs held his hands behind him. The Rev. Dr. Howard was on one side of him and a guard on the other.

As he reached the foot of the stairs

NEW PRICE

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PASTORS CONDEMN
TAKING OF LIFE BY
WARRANT OF LAW

THE REV. EUGENE A. HANNAN.

Two Washington pastors of different faiths write below of the hanging in Washington today of James F. Allen, and the question of capital punishment.

They are the Rev. Dr. D. H. Martin, a Methodist minister, and the Rev. Eugene A. Hannan, a Catholic priest.

The views that will be found below were expressed after they read the account of the hanging of the condemned man in the first edition of The Times.

By the Rev. EUGENE A. HANNAN.

Pastor of St. Martin's Catholic Church, 1008 North Capitol street.

The conviction of James F. Allen on the same day of his trial sounds like a drum-head court-martial.

I do not question the justice and fairness of the courts, but it seems an incredibly short time to give a man to defend his own life. I should be happy if the law providing capital punishment were repealed.

It is a horrible thing to take the life of a human being, a life that you cannot give it. It is a horrible thing to think of that life slowly slipping from the body of the condemned man, as he throbs in convulsions at the end of a rope.

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MRS. ZINKHAN TO
CONTINUE WAR ON
DISTRICT HANGINGS

The untiring fight made by Mrs. L. F. Zinkhan, wife of the superintendent of the Washington Asylum and Jail, to save the life of James F. Allen ended today when Allen was hanged at the jail.

Although Mrs. Zinkhan did not save Allen's life, she is going to devote all of her time and efforts toward abolishing capital punishment in the District of Columbia.

Mrs. Zinkhan writes her views of the crime, the hanging, and capital punishment.

By MRS. L. F. ZINKHAN.

The 12th of September, all nature smiling, the birds singing merrily, a little robin by my window calling me to another day of ceaseless, untiring efforts in behalf of the abolishment of capital punishment in the District of Columbia.

Just a square away, at the jail, a soul is to be ushered into the great unknown, eternally, by hanging, or rather by being choked to death.

"Thank God, I am ready," Allen, whom everybody liked, said last night, "I am ready to meet God, but oh, if I could die some other way. Thank you, Mrs. Zinkhan, for your untiring efforts in my behalf, and please work for me; although myself you cannot save."

"Eye For An Eye"

The poor sister and little boy are heartbroken, but of what avail? An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth holds good today, and poor Allen, whose life was ruined by the serpent in the garden, must suffer the penalty of inflicting punishment for crime down in his home life. If some of these serpents of the home were dealt with in place of the ones ruined, there would be fewer murders, in my estimation.

I do not approve of this murder, far from it, but my heart aches for the one whom the serpent struck down in his home life. If some of these serpents of the home were dealt with in place of the ones ruined, there would be fewer murders, in my estimation.

Poor Allen should have left the one who ruined his life and never again taken her into his home. There should be a law against home despoilers, these beasts, man or woman, who wreck not only the home, the wife, the husband, but the poor little innocent children. Aye, even the babe in arms. God put it into the hearts of those in power to make a law, a great far-reaching law, to punish severely the serpent of the home.

While I write, I see the march to the scaffold, the trembling step; I am just informed that it is all over. Allen has paid the penalty.

Will Work For Abolition.

I do trust that this will be the last hanging, or choking to death, in the District. Whenever the State hangs a person, it adds but another link in the endless chain of crime.

We will try to brighten up the corner where we are, first, by punishing the home breaker, the greatest criminal of the age. Our responsibility, as the good people of this country, is appalling, and the sooner we stay the hand of the home wrecker, the hand of murder will be stayed.

I was treated very courteously by Secretary Tumulty and others, but as the President was at sea, I could not reach him.

I will work ceaselessly until the end, to get Congress and others in power to abolish capital punishment.

With whatever measure ye mete, it shall be measured unto you."

Hate ceases not by hate, but by love. Then let us strike at the root of the evil and thus lessen murder.

Tried to Save Life
of Doomed Man

Verifying in detail a statement of conditions recently published in The Times, J. S. Garland, superintendent of the Water Department, in his annual report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1917, submitted to the District Commissioners today that the increased per capita consumption of 156.5 gallons for 1916 has increased to 159.3 gallons for 1917, "due entirely to waste of water by Federal and District government installations."

The water department, he states, has used every effort to prevent the waste of water, "with very unsatisfactory results." The total daily consumption of 49,668,000 gallons for 1916, according to the report, was increased to 51,454,000 gallons for 1917, notwithstanding the installation of 6,400 meters in the residential section, 85 per cent of which is now metered.

4,000,000 Gallons Daily.

"The waste," says the report, "is approximately 4,000,000 gallons a day in the Government Printing Office, State, War, and Navy building, and the Soldiers' Home."

Legislative authority to alter their equipment, to prevent the wasting of water, is in these cases urgently needed. It is most unfortunate that the District of Columbia authorities are lacking in legal means to prevent this waste by enforcing a change of equipment.

The co-operation of the United States and District Governments in an effort to eliminate all waste in the opinion, enable the Water Department, with its present supply facilities, to meet fully the needs of a population of 500,000 people and postpone the consideration of additional supply to the year 1930."

Superintendent Garland has included in his estimates an item for covering one basin of the Brightwood reservoir, the intention being eventually to cover both basins. Provision for this was made in the last estimate, but was not included in the District appropriation bill.

Contaminated By Dust.

"It appears absurd," says Mr. Garland, "to spend so much money for filtering and pumping water into open reservoirs, where it becomes contaminated by dust and germs carried by wind and rain."

During the year 41,492 feet of water mains were laid, making the total length of mains now in service, 2,371,180 feet or 419.5 miles.

Do you think it would ease the mind of your prisoner to know that should his dear boy not have a good home I can offer him such, providing there is someone to help with the expense. I am a well educated French woman, experienced in the care of children, and I would try to be a friend and mother to the lad. Do you think the Board of Children's Guardians would help?

"Assure the prisoner that his loving prayers for the boy's welfare shall certainly be heard by the Most High."

PRESIDENT TO GET
HUMANITARIAN MEDAL

The Humanitarian Cult has awarded to President Wilson its medal for the year 1934 as having been the greatest humanitarian of the year. The gold medal will be presented to the President at the White House at some later date. In accepting the honor that has been paid to him, the President wrote to Misha Appelbaum, leader of the cult:

"Your letter of August 14 has brought me very real gratification, and I beg to say that it will be entirely agreeable to me to receive the committee you mention. It is delightful to have so large a body of my fellow-citizens entertain so generous a judgment about me, and I am very grateful."

The President got more than 50 per cent of all the votes cast by the cult during the season of 1916-17. The cult is strongly against war, and yet the vote for the President increased after he sent his war message to Congress.

EMPLOYEES OF SENATE
ADD TO RED CROSS 'BIT'

Although the employees of the United States Senate have already purchased an ambulance for war relief work abroad, they increased their "bit" today by a donation to the District Chapter, American Red Cross, of \$271.54, according to an announcement by Henry B. F. Macfarland, chairman of the District war service fund committee.

The Senate employees each contributed one day's pay and this money was collected and transmitted by Col. Charles P. Higgins, sergeant-at-arms of the Senate. Over \$3,000 has been received from the Senate in contributions to the Red Cross.

How to Banish
Wrinkles Quickly

If your face is disfigured with wrinkles, no matter what the cause, you can quickly dispel every line, even the most obstinate, by using a simple, home-made wash lotion. Merely dissolve one ounce of powdered olive in a half pint with hot water. Apply the face twice, and—boom!—you scarcely believe your own eyes when you look into the mirror and behold the marvelous transformation.

The remarkable extrinsic action of the "Bath" is lighted by the skin, which is literally pressed out. Best of all, this result is not purely temporary, for the lotion also has a healthful tonic action, which tends to strengthen and tone up the weakened tissue, and added beauty may be expected with continued use. Use this once a day for awhile; it cannot injure the most delicate skin. The treatment itself leaves no trace—no one guesses the secret of your increasing youthful appearance—Advt.

WASTE OF WATER
BY U. S. OFFICES
SHOWS INCREASE

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